Claims

1. The use of a growth hormone (GH) antagonist in the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition to reduce the overnight insulin requirement of a patient suffering from Type 1 diabetes mellitus.

2. Use according to claim 1, wherein said composition is for administration by subcutaneous injection.

3. Use according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein said composition is for daily administration.

4. Use according to claim 3 wherein said composition is for evening administration.

5. Use according to any preceding claim wherein said GH antagonist is pegvisomant (SOMAVERT ®).

6. A method of reducing overnight insulin requirement of a patient suffering from Type 1 diabetes mellitus comprising administering insulin and a growth hormone (GH) antagonist to a patient suffering therefrom during the evening.

7. A method according to claim 6 comprising administering to the patient a daily dose of GH antagonist and less frequent overnight infusions of insulin together with a hyperinsulinaemic euglycaemic clamp.

8. A method according to claim 7 wherein said overnight insulin infusions are administered at approximately three-weekly intervals.

9. A method according to any of claims 6 to 8 wherein the GH antagonist is pegvisomant (SOMAVERT ®).

10. A method according to claim 9 wherein each daily dose of pegvisomant (SOMAVERT ®) is from 1 mg to 20 mg.

11. A method according to claim 11 wherein each daily dose is from 5 mg to 10 mg.

12. The use of a growth hormone (GH) antagonist in the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition to reduce the overnight insulin requirement of a patient suffering from dawn phenomenon.

13. A method of treating a patient suffering from both Type 1 diabetes mellitus and from dawn phenomenon comprising administering insulin and a growth hormone (GH) antagonist to a patient.